



Boater & Camper Essentials

Welcome to Glacier Bay

If you intend to camp or boat during your visit, your first stop should be at the Visitor Information Station (VIS). During the summer, a free permit is required for all boating and overnight camping. Orientations, provided with the permit, are required annually for all campers and skippers. They cover the following:

- Rules and Regulations
- Safety Issues
- Resource Concerns
- Tides

Backcountry campers can also check out bear-resistant food containers (BRFC) to use free of charge during their visit.

We want you to make the most of your visit. And we want to make sure you do it safely and with minimum impact, so others who follow will be able to enjoy the wildness this land can offer. It is your responsibility to know and obey the rules and regulations of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. If you have any questions, please ask a ranger.



Good to Know

The following is a partial listing of laws and regulations designed to help you have a safe, enjoyable visit while protecting park resources. For further information or questions on additional regulations, please ask a park ranger.

Feeding wildlife is prohibited. All food, fish, garbage and equipment used to cook or store food must be cached in a sealed motor vehicle, vessel (excluding kayaks), building, BRFC, designated trash receptacle, or designated food cache.

Firearms are prohibited from being carried or used in the park. They may only be possessed if they are made temporarily inoperable (broken down, barrel/bolt removed, and unloaded). Firearms may not be carried in a kayak or canoe while in the park.

Hunting is only permitted on the preserve lands in the Dry Bay area. All persons 16 years and older are required to hold a valid Alaska State Hunting License.

Harvesting the following for personal consumption or use is allowed: unoccupied seashells, all edible berries and fruits, edible mushrooms, clams and mollusks. State regulations apply. **NOTE:** Eating clams and mussels from Glacier Bay is not recommended because of the presence of a naturally occurring neurotoxin that causes paralytic shellfish poisoning in humans and can lead to sudden death.

Pets are allowed in the developed areas of Bartlett Cove and must be on a leash at all times. Pets are **NOT** permitted on the Forest Loop or Bartlett River trails. No pets are allowed ashore in the backcountry.

Sport Fishing by all persons 16 years and older requires a valid Alaska State Fishing License, available during the summer months at Glacier Bay Lodge and some businesses in Gustavus.

Hypothermia: Killer Cold

In the backcountry, good raingear is a must. Staying dry will help you stay warm as wet clothing can wick away body heat and lead to hypothermia—the lowering of the body's core temperature. Hypothermia can kill. Prevention and early recognition are vital to safe camping. A victim of hypothermia may not realize his or her condition, and will often deny being cold or needing help.

Early symptoms: Violent shivering, changes in mood or consciousness, irritability, cool, pale skin, slow or weak pulse, slow, shallow breathing.

Advanced symptoms: Absence of shivering, unconsciousness.

Treatment: Prevent further heat loss. Provide shelter from cold, rain, wet ground and wind. Replace wet clothing with dry synthetic clothing. Actively warm. Techniques include:

- Wrap patient in space blanket, sleeping bag or ground cloth.
- Wrap warm water bottles in cloth and place in the sleeping bag with patient.
- Provide close contact with another warm person.
- Build a fire.
- Feed patient sugars, carbohydrates or sweet warm drinks.
- Keep patient awake.

DO NOT: Give alcohol. Rub or massage affected area. Expose to excessive heat.

Boating Information

Permits

- Are required for private motor vessels from June 1 through August 31.
- Are free and good for seven consecutive days.
- Must be confirmed 48 hours before scheduled entry date or permit will be cancelled.

To confirm permits or to see if permits are available, call the VIS “KWM20 Bartlett Cove” on marine band 16 or phone 907-697-2627. Permit applications are available on our website and are accepted 60 days before the intended entry date.

Docks

Bartlett Cove Dock:

- Vessels may dock for a maximum of 3 hours in a 24-hour period. After that, anchor out beyond the white “no anchor” buoys.
- Dinghies may dock in the designated area for no more than 12 hours in a 24-hour period. See dock bulletin board.
- Do not leave vehicles or equipment unattended on docks.
- Use only slips designated for your use. See dock bulletin board.

Fuel Dock:

- Do not leave vessels unattended at the Fuel Dock.
- For hours, call Glacier Bay Lodge on marine band 16 or phone 907-697-2225.
- Access to shore via the fuel dock is not permitted.

Anchorage

- Anchorages do not contain moorings.
- Anchor in water deep enough to remain afloat at low tide.
- Safety depends on ice, wind and tide conditions.
- Please do not raft or anchor next to the Blue Mouse Cove Ranger Raft.

Adams Inlet	Goose Cove	South Fingers
Beardslee Entrance	Johnson Cove	South Sandy Cove
Berg Bay	North Fingers	Reid Inlet*
Blue Mouse Cove*	Sandy Cove*	Russell Island
Geikie Inlet	Sebree Cove	Tidal Inlet

* Boats at these anchorages may not run generators or any other non-propulsive engines between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. except when using a windlass.



Photo by Tom Bean

Hazards

Closures: Due to animal activity or resource protection, certain areas are off limits to entry and landings for all or part of the year. In summer, some areas are off limits to motorized vessels—including sailing vessels with auxiliary motorized propulsion, even if not in use. Know and obey all closures. See Boating Guide, page 24.

Cruise Ships: No more than 2 cruise ships are permitted in the park per day. These large vessels cannot turn quickly and may take miles to stop. Do not approach them when they are stationary in front of the glaciers. Do not get in their path and do not assume they see you. Watch for large wakes, the waves of which can reach the beach over 10 minutes after the ship has passed.

Currents & Winds: Currents of 6 to 8 knots are not uncommon. Traveling with the tides, rather than against them, can help you ride or paddle easier and quicker.

Caution: The forces of tides, currents and wind can combine in certain places to create dangerous conditions. Use caution in Sitakaday Narrows, Beardslee Entrance, McBride Entrance and the north shore of Adams Inlet. Plan crossings of wide channels carefully. Better to change your route or wait for conditions to subside than to risk flipping your boat.

Ice: Glaciers can calve from above and below the waterline. Underwater tongues of ice can break off and shoot to the surface. We do not recommend approaching tidewater glaciers closer than 1/4 mile.

Tides: Secure boats and gear well above high tide line.

Weather: Mid-May through September, weather forecasts and satellite images are posted daily at the VIS bulletin board. Rangers broadcast the marine forecast and other important notices over marine band 16 at approximately 8:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. daily.



Photo by Fawn Bauer

Emergency

Call rangers “KWM20 Bartlett Cove” on marine band 16. NOTE: radio coverage in the bay is spotty and cell phone coverage is non-existent.

If you have no radio, wave a large brightly colored item toward a passing boat. Tie this item to a stick, oar or kayak paddle for greater visibility.

Report all emergencies to the Visitor Information Station or to the Blue Mouse Cove Ranger Station.

Maps & Charts

Topographic Maps:

Trails Illustrated Map by National Geographic 1:250,000
USGS Quadrangles 1:63,360

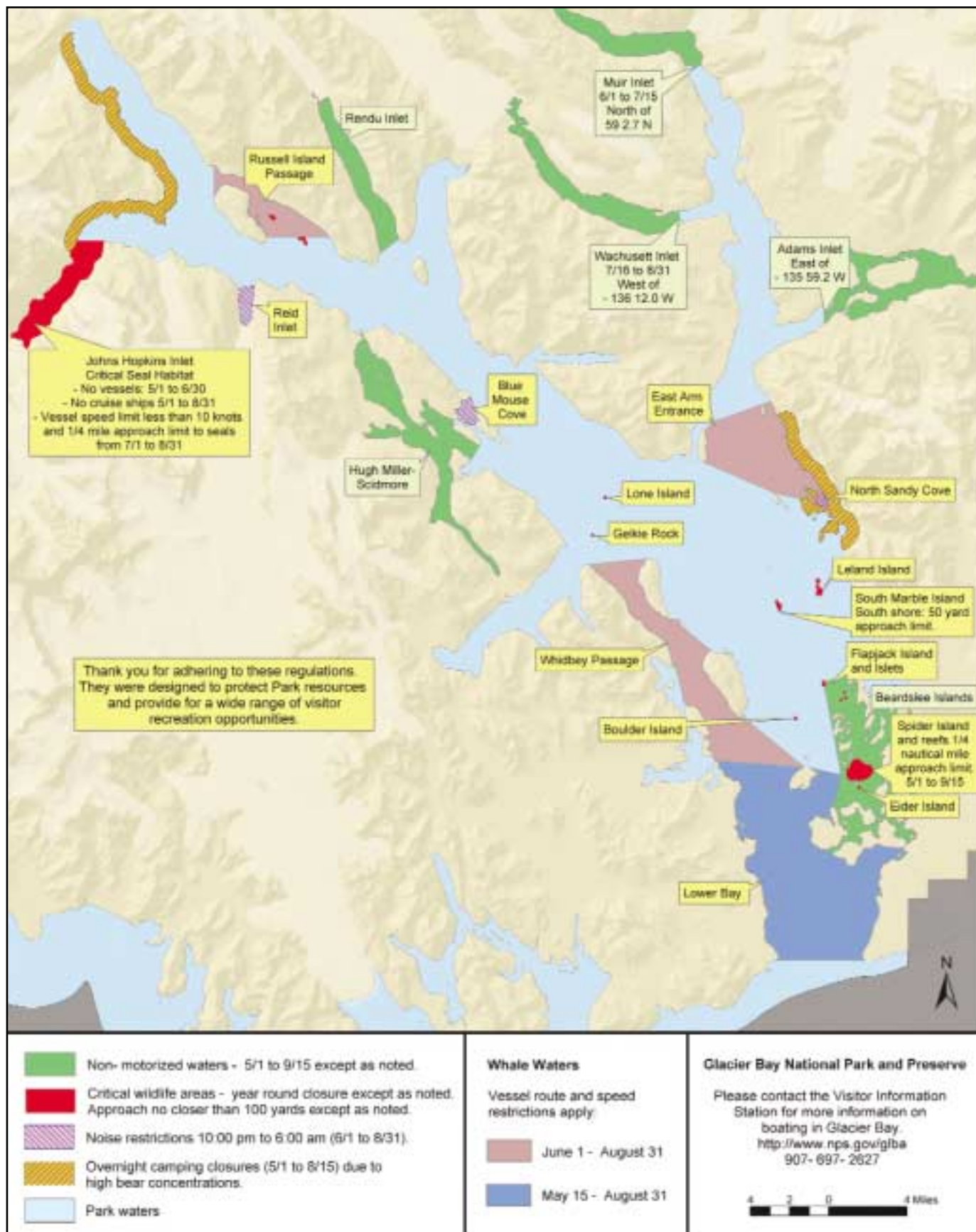
Nautical Charts:

17300 Stephens Passage to Cross Sound
17318 Glacier Bay
17302 Icy Strait and Cross Sound
17301 Cape Spencer to Icy Point
16762 Lituya Bay

To order maps and charts contact:

Alaska Natural History Association
P.O. Box 140
Gustavus, AK 99826
907-697-2635
Karen_Platt@partner.nps.gov.

Boating Guide



Whale Watching in Whale Waters

To minimize disturbance to endangered humpback whales, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve has developed some of the most protective boating rules visitors will find anywhere. Because the park's mission is to protect and preserve these magnificent creatures, we maintain strict operating and speed restrictions in critical whale habitat.

Rules for all of Glacier Bay

All vessels, including kayaks, must NOT:

- Operate within 1/4 nautical mile of a humpback whale.
- Pursue a humpback whale by altering course or speed in a manner that results in retaining a vessel at a distance less than a 1/2 nautical mile from a humpback whale.

What do you do if a whale suddenly appears in front of you? If your vessel is accidentally positioned within a 1/4 nautical mile of a humpback whale, immediately slow your vessel to ten knots or less. Don't shift into reverse unless impact is likely. Then, carefully direct or maintain your course away from the whale until at least 1/4 nautical mile separation exists.

What are Whale Waters?

These are special areas in Glacier Bay that require additional speed and operating restrictions. These critical areas change depending on current whale activity in the bay. See Boating Guide on page 24 for areas and dates that regulations are in effect and check at the VIS for additional temporary restrictions before setting out.

Rules for Whale Waters

Motorized vessels over 18 feet in length **MUST**:

- Maintain a distance of at least one mile from shore. In narrower areas, navigate a mid-channel course (unless fishing or operating solely under sail).
- Approach or land on shore perpendicularly, taking the most direct line to shore.
- Operate within speed restrictions. Check at the VIS for current status.





Camping Information

Photo by Rosemarie Salazar

In Bartlett Cove:

A free, walk-in tent campground is located at Bartlett Cove. You must register for a site at the VIS. Wheelbarrows are available to help haul gear between the VIS, dock and campground. Please observe the following:

- Store all food, trash and scented items in the caches provided in the campground.
- Cook, prepare and eat food only in the intertidal zone next to the campground.
- Dispose of trash at the VIS.
- Fires are permitted only in the designated campground beach fire ring.

In the Backcountry:

Closure Areas

- Certain parts of the bay are closed to campers either permanently or temporarily due to animal activity and resource protection. Ask VIS rangers for closure updates. You are responsible for knowing and obeying these closures. See Boating Guide, page 24.

Campsite Selection

- Choose a site that shows few signs of wildlife usage.
- Avoid camping near other parties.
- Do not camp within 100 feet of a stream or lake.
- Pitch your tent on durable surfaces.
- Try to keep your camp and activities as inconspicuous as possible.
- Leave your campsite as you found it.

Food Storage

- Cook and eat at least 100 yards from intertidal zone.
- Do not use your bear-resistant food container (BRFC) as a cooking platform.
- At night, store all BRFCs and clean cooking gear in brush or behind rocks away from animal trails 100 yards from camp, not in your boat.
- In forested areas, use of a BRFC is still recommended. You may, however, hang your food.
- Food must hang at least 10 feet from the ground, 4 feet horizontally from the tree trunk and at least 4 feet down from the supporting branch.



Water

- All water should be boiled, filtered or treated before consumption.
- Do not use soap directly in fresh water. Carry the water 100 feet away from the source.

Waste Disposal

- Within 100 feet of shoreline, deposit human waste in saltwater or the intertidal zone.
- Beyond 100 feet of shoreline, deposit human waste in a shallow pit at least 100 feet from any surface freshwater sources.
- Burn or pack out toilet paper.
- Pack out all trash.

Campfires

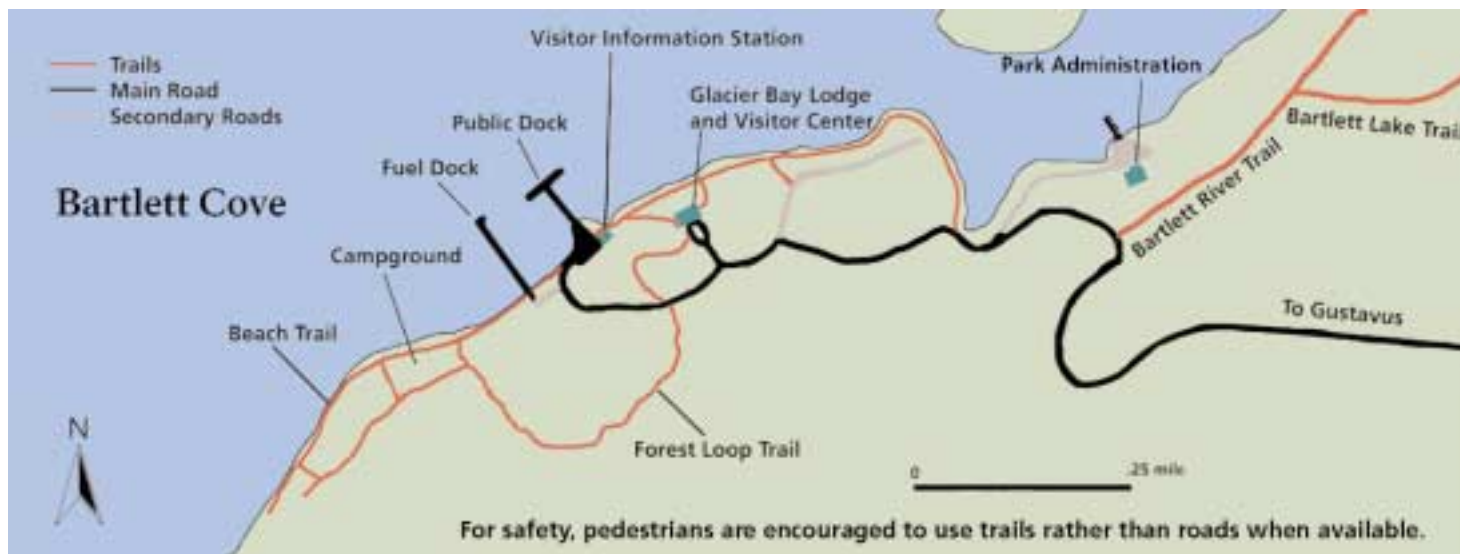
- Campers are encouraged to use camping stoves.
- Campfires are permitted below the high tide line or more than 1/4 mile from marine shorelines.
- Burn only down and dead timber. DO NOT burn interglacial wood, which comes from the exposed remnants of ancient forests found on certain beaches around the bay. Ask a ranger for details.

Hypothermia

- Cold can kill. Know the signs of and treatment for hypothermia. See page 21.

✓ Check In

- If you fail to return as scheduled or do not turn in your BRFC, rangers will begin to search for you starting with the areas indicated on your permit. Please check in at the VIS when you return.



These Boots Were Made for Walking

You've probably done a fair bit of traveling to get here and may have a hankering to stretch your legs. There are three maintained trails near the Glacier Bay Lodge. All offer relatively easy walking.

Forest Loop Trail

Distance: 1 mile loop

Time: 30 min.-1.5 hours

Takes you through both the temperate rainforest and the beach environments of Bartlett Cove. Begin your walk either in front of the lodge (just off the parking lot) or south of the boat ramp between the docks. The trail surface varies between dirt, gravel and boardwalk. Two benches and viewing platforms along the way beg you to pause and take in the sights and sounds of the spruce/hemlock forest. Rangers lead guided walks along this trail every afternoon at 2:30 p.m. Meet near the lodge front desk.



Photo: Mark Jefferson

Beach Walk

The long stretch of shoreline south of the docks allows for a pleasant stroll. Low tide reveals a myriad of intertidal life. (Please walk carefully!) It's a terrific place to see land, shore and sea birds. Free tide tables are available at the NPS Information Desk in the lodge and at the Visitor Information Station near the public-use dock.

Bartlett River Trail

Distance: 4 miles roundtrip

Time: 4-5 hours

Meanders along an intertidal lagoon and through the spruce/hemlock forest before emerging and ending at the Bartlett River estuary. Watch for coyotes, moose, bear and river otter along the beach. Ducks, geese and other water birds concentrate in the intertidal area during migrations and molting. Salmon run up the river in the latter part of the summer, which attracts hungry harbor seals.

Bartlett Lake Trail

Distance: 8 miles roundtrip

Time: 7-8 hours

Begin walking on the Bartlett River Trail. About 3/4 of a mile down the trail at a signpost, the lake trail will branch off and begin to climb the moraine. This trail is less maintained so use caution to not lose the route. The chatter of red squirrels will accompany you as you wind your way over and around moss-covered boulders and lichen-covered trees before reaching the shores of Bartlett Lake. During this full-day journey, you may be richly rewarded in solitude and perhaps even the call of loons. Bring water, lunch and raingear.

Baneberry: Deadly Temptations



Photo by Gary Stolz

Glacier Bay has a myriad of tasty berries that ripen over the summer. But there is one berry you do not want to eat.

Baneberry, *Acraea rubra*, a member of the buttercup family, is aptly named. “Bane” is derived from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning “murderous.”

All parts of the plant are toxic. It is common around Bartlett Cove on the edges of forests, along stream banks and roadsides.

The stalk grows from two to four feet high. Its thin, heavily veined leaves have deeply toothed edges. In the spring, it produces a cluster of small white flowers above the leaves. In July and August, hard shiny berries appear. These can be either candy-apple red (most common) or white.

Mature berries have a dark spot, which has earned them the nickname of “dolls eyes.” But there is nothing playful about this plant. Ingesting one berry can cause numbness in the mouth and tongue. The poison in three berries is enough to kill a child. Six berries will effectively shut down the respiratory system in adults.

The best rule to follow if you are sampling wild plants: if you aren’t sure what it is, don’t eat it.

A Slip of the Foot

Due to the amount of moisture here in Glacier Bay, walking can be tricky. Wet decks, wooden walkways, logs, rocks, and tree roots can be very slippery and create tripping hazards. Muddy pathways can be slick. To minimize risk, wear sturdy shoes with good traction and use handrails wherever available. Watch where you are stepping and take your time!

Moose Musts

If you encounter a moose, use caution:

- Increase the distance between you and the moose.
- Get behind a tree.
- Change your route.

To avoid close encounters make noise while you hike.



No matter where you walk, always let someone know where you are going and what time you expect to be back.

Park Partners



Alaska is a naturally beautiful place. This beauty emerges from Alaska's extensive public lands—approximately 80% of the state. Increased visitation to public lands results in an increased need for visitor services. Unfortunately, shrinking government budgets make it harder and harder to offer services to the many visitors and neighbors of public lands in Alaska. Nonprofit organizations, such as the Alaska Natural History Association, help fill these gaps and provide either direct services or vital support for ongoing educational experiences that people enjoy in our public places. The Association shares the natural and cultural history of Alaska's amazing lands by:

- **ENHANCING** visitor experiences through information, exhibits and displays.
- **PUBLISHING** books and other educational materials, including *The Fairweather Visitor Guide*.
- **EARNING** vital financial support for educational and scientific programs.
- **OPERATING** over 50 bookstores in public land visitor centers throughout Alaska.

Support these educational efforts by becoming a member. To purchase materials visit one of the Association bookstores at the visitor centers.

Alaska Natural History Association
750 West Second Avenue, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99501
Toll-free 866-AK PARKS
907-274-8440
www.alaskanha.org

The Fairweather Visitor Guide is produced with generous sponsorship support from:



PLANNING YOUR TRIP

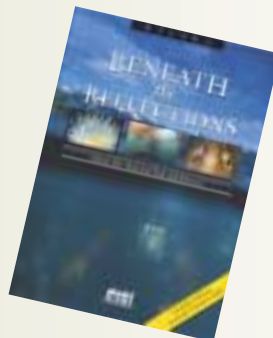
To find these publications and more, visit the Association Bookstore in the Visitor Center or order directly from the Glacier Bay branch by calling 907-697-2635 or e-mail: karen_platt@partner.nps.gov.



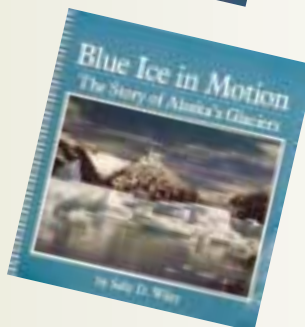
Glacier Bay Trails Illustrated Topo Map
by National Geographic
Waterproof
\$10.00



Glacier Bay National Park Alaska
by Mark Kelley & Sherry Simpson
Color photographs and essays tell the fascinating story of the park, its wildlife and plants.
\$20.00



Glacier Bay: Beneath the Reflections
Explore the strange and intriguing underwater world of Glacier Bay in this award-winning film. As a DVD bonus, enjoy the park's classic film *Forever Wild*.
DVD 27 minutes
\$14.95



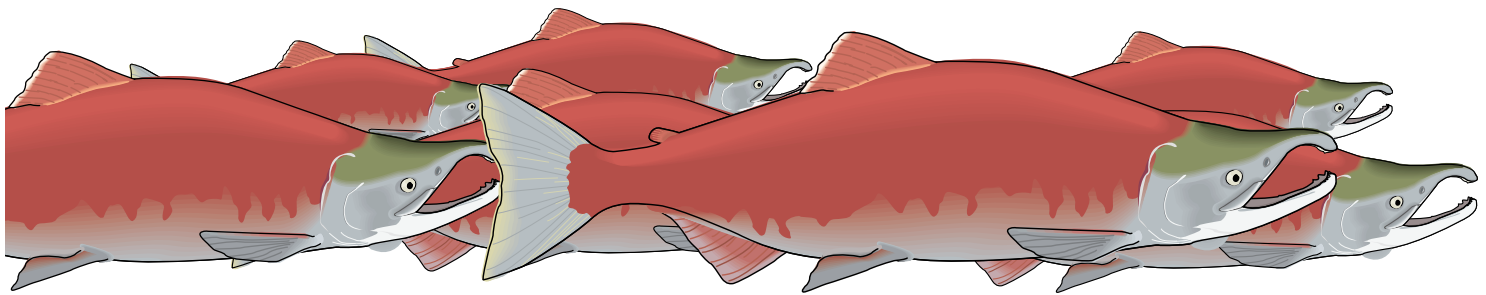
Blue Ice in Motion: The Story of Alaska's Glaciers
by Sally D. Wiley
Why is ice blue? Why do glaciers move? Learn these answers and many cool facts.
\$8.00

Also available on-line at www.alaskanha.org

Become a Junior Ranger

If you are between the ages of 6 and 12, you may want to become a Junior Ranger during your park visit. Stop by the Visitor Center on the second floor of the lodge to pick up a Junior Ranger Activity Book. When you have finished the activities, bring your booklet to a ranger and you will be awarded a special badge that makes you a Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve Junior Ranger!

Here are a few activities to get you started. If you need help with any of these activities, please ask a ranger. Good luck and have fun!



Who am I?

- ☉ I begin and end my life in a river, but spend the majority of my time in the ocean.
- ☉ I eat small fish and bugs.
- ☉ Some of my nicknames include: humpy, red, silver, king, and dog.

1) Who am I? _____

- ☉ I drink both the nectar of flowers and blood.
- ☉ I like stagnant pools of water best.
- ☉ There are more of me in the arctic than anywhere else in the world.
- ☉ When I bite you, my saliva makes you itch.

2) Who am I? _____

- ☉ I am a small member of the gull family.
- ☉ My wing tips look like they are dipped in black ink.
- ☉ I like to fish near where glaciers calve and meltwater streams meet the sea.
- ☉ In Glacier Bay, I nest in large colonies on cliffs near the Margerie Glacier.

3) Who am I? _____

Glacier Bay Word Scramble

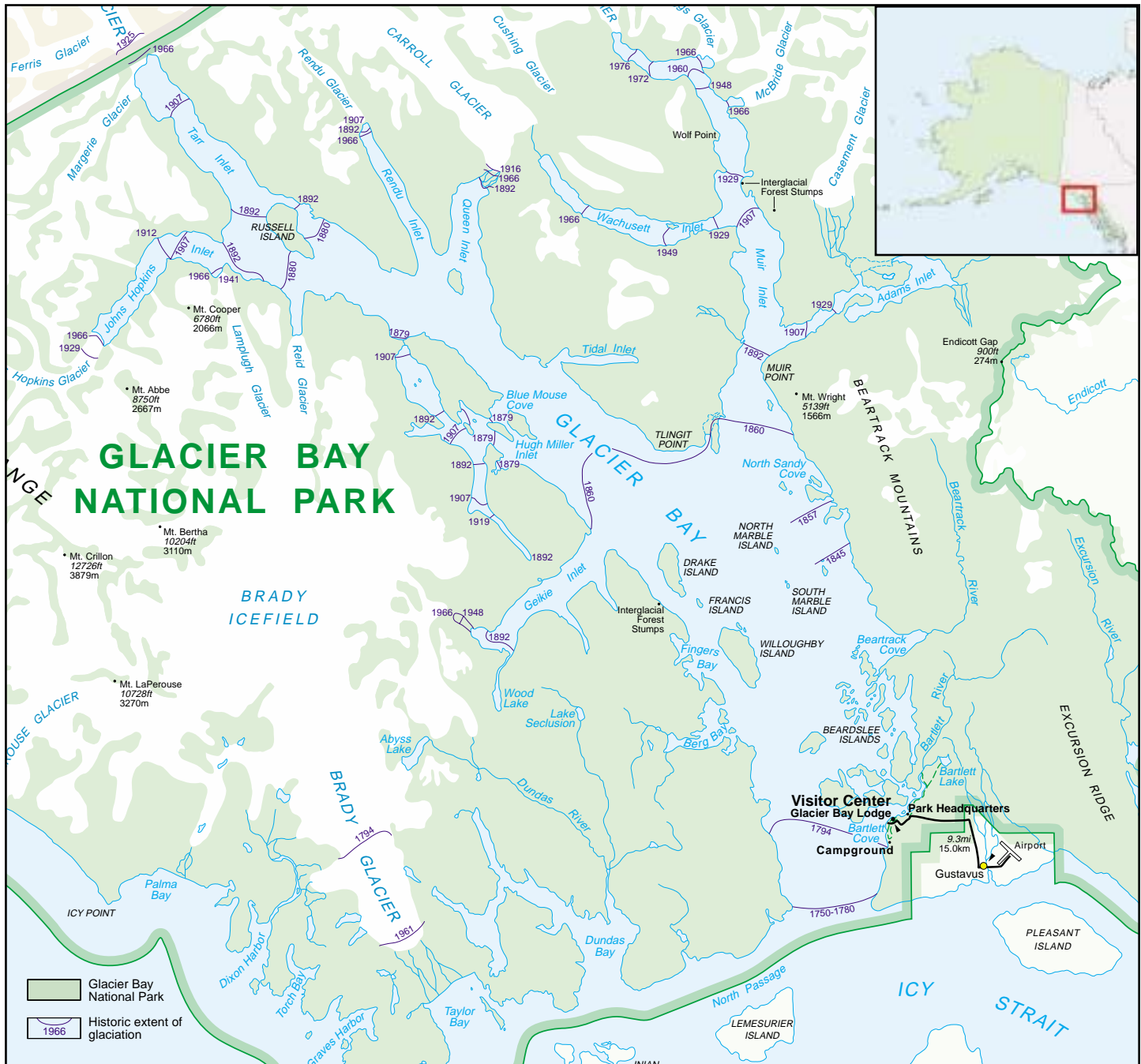
All of the things below can be found in Glacier Bay. How many can you find? The words may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal or backward. Good luck!

MOOSE SPRUCE GLACIER
BEAR HUMPBACK EAGLE
SEAL HALIBUT

K	C	A	B	P	M	U	H
S	E	A	L	R	O	T	O
A	P	R	A	A	O	L	S
T	O	R	C	T	S	R	T
B	E	A	U	I	E	A	R
H	G	L	A	C	I	E	R
A	E	L	G	A	E	B	I
T	U	B	I	L	A	H	N

Answers: Who am I?

1. Salmon 2. Mosquito 3. Kittiwake



NPS Map

Emergency and Medical Assistance

Emergency Inside the Park:

National Park Service Bartlett Cove

697-2229 (summers only 8 a.m.–6 p.m.)

697-2651 (24-hour)

KWM20 Bartlett Cove on marine band 16

Emergency Outside the Park:

Gustavus Emergency Response

Dial 911

Other Medical Assistance:

Gustavus Community Clinic

42 Dolly Varden Lane, Gustavus

697-3008

You are in an isolated area. The closest hospital or trauma facility is in Juneau, 30 minutes by air. Weather conditions may delay medical evacuations or other emergency transport, sometimes for days. To help ensure you have a safe visit, use caution.

- Respect boundaries, especially around construction zones.
- Watch for traffic on docks, roadways and in parking lots.
- Report any hazardous situations to the Visitor Information Station.
- Even for short excursions, always let someone know where you are going and what time you plan to be back, then stick to your plan.